

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of dyeing a paper web comprising
 - i) coating a paper web with a dye fixing agent, wherein the dye fixing agent iscomprises at least one of a polyethylencimine and/or a polychylencimine derivative solution,
 - ii) drying the paper web, and
 - iii) applying a dye composition to the paper web,wherein the dye composition comprises
a binder;
a dye and/or pigment dispersion;
a thickener comprising a poly(vinylpyrrolidone-vinyl acetate) copolymer; and
water.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the dye fixing agent further comprises at least one of sodium chloride, magnesium chloride, potassium chloride, alum, diallyl dimethyl ammonium chloride and polymers thereof, optical brightening agents, and/or silicas.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the dye composition further comprises at least one additional thickener formed of an acrylic acid/alkyl acrylate copolymer.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the binder is selected from the group consisting of starches, acrylic ester/styrene copolymers, acrylic ester/acrylonitrile copolymers, carboxylated styrene/butadiene copolymers, and mixtures thereof.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the dye composition further comprises a crosslinker

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the crosslinker is selected from the group consisting of blocked and straight or unblocked glyoxal-based insolubilizers, aliphatic epoxy resins, ammonium zirconium carbonate, potassium zirconium carbonate, melamine, melamine formaldehyde, blocked isocyanates, and mixtures thereof.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the crosslinker is a blocked glyoxal-based insolubilizer.
9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the dye or ~~pigment dispersion~~ is selected from the group consisting of basic dyes, acid dyes, anionic direct dyes, cationic direct dyes, and the pigment dispersion is selected from the group consisting of anionic pigment dispersions, and cationic pigment dispersions.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the dye composition further comprises a filler.
11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the filler is selected from the group consisting of silica, silica gel, calcium carbonate, calcium sulfite, pyrophyllite, kaolin, clay, titanium dioxide, aluminum hydroxide, aluminum trihydrate, satin white, barium sulfate, magnesium oxide, talc, colloidal silica, plastic pigments, and white urea resin pigments.
12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the applying step comprises applying the dye composition to the paper web in a sizing press.
13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the applying step comprises spraying the dye composition onto the paper or paper web.
14. (Canceled)
15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)
17. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising a step of preparing the dye composition by mixing the binder, the dye, the thickener, and water.
18. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising drying the paper web after the applying step.
19. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the entire surface of the paper web is coated with the dye composition.